

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An *in vitro* cell based assay for evaluating cellular responses to peroxisome proliferator activated receptor (PPAR) ligands comprising the steps of:

- (a) determining a first mRNA transcript level of a PPAR responsive gene selected from the group consisting of pyruvate dehydrogenase kinase-4 (PDK-4) and adipocyte differentiation relating protein (ADRP), expressed in a cell selected from the group consisting of human proximal tubule derived HK-2 cells, hamster kidney cells, and hamster liver cells, endogenously expressing one or more PPARs;
- (b) contacting said cell with a test compound that binds one or more PPARs *in vitro*;
- (c) incubating said cell and said test compound;
- (d) measuring a second mRNA transcript level of said PPAR responsive gene expressed in the cell; and
- (e) comparing the first level of mRNA transcript with the second level of mRNA transcript,

wherein, a difference in the first and second levels of mRNA transcript indicates the test compound is a PPAR modulator.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more PPARs is selected from the group consisting of PPAR- α , PPAR- $\beta(\delta)$, and PPAR- γ .

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the cell is the human proximal tubule derived cell HK2.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the PPAR responsive gene is adipocyte differentiation relating protein (ADRP).

6-24 (Canceled)

25. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein said test compound is administered once, in a single dose.